

REMARKS

The Applicant has carefully considered the rejections raised in the Office Action dated August 27, 2004. As a result, claims have been amended to comply with the Examiner's requirements and suggestions as outlined below.

On page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner has acknowledged that claims 2-5 recite the allowable subject matter. Accordingly, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate all the limitations of claim 2 which the Examiner has deemed as allowable. This amendment has resulted in the cancellation of claim 2 and the change in the dependency of claims 3 and 4 to claim 1.

The Examiner has also rejected claims 14, 15 and 17 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,084,858 (Maeda). It is submitted that, since the amended claim 1 now defines the allowable subject matter, claims 14, 15 and 17 depending from claim 1 should also be deemed as new and inventive over the cited prior art.

With respect to the rejection under double patenting, claim 42 is being cancelled from the application.

Furthermore, Figures 1a, 1b, 1c and 2 of the drawings have been revised to indicate them as prior art.

Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments made herein are to more succinctly and clearly recite the invention. All the amendments are supported by the application as originally filed, and therefore no new matter is being added.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully solicited and favorable consideration and allowance of claims is requested.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the allowability of the claims with respect to the art, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would contact the undersigned attorney-of-record at the telephone number shown below for further expediting the prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,
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Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figures 1a, 1b, 1c and 2. These sheets, which include Figures 1a, 1b, 1c and 2, replace the original sheets including Figures 1a, 1b, 1c and 2.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets